



CITY OF FALLS CHURCH

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Falls Church City Photo Red Light Enforcement Camera Changes Locations

FALLS CHURCH, VA. - In an effort to continue to deter motorists from running red lights in the City of Falls Church, the City recently moved its 'state-of-the-art' camera from the Annandale Road and Hillwood Avenue intersection to the intersection of Cherry Street and East Broad Street.

The City is moving the camera from Annandale Road and Hillwood Avenue because the number of motorists running red lights has significantly decreased at the intersection. This latest installation at Cherry Street and East Broad Street, which begins operation on Tuesday, June 22, 2004, marks the first time the City has moved one of its four red light cameras. Plans are currently underway to move a second camera from the Annandale Road and Hillwood Avenue intersection to the intersection of Marshall Street and Washington Street. The two other cameras are installed at the intersections of West Broad Street and Annandale Road and West Broad Street and Birch Street.

In 2001 the City installed CrossingGuard®, a video-based camera system created by Nestor Traffic Systems, Inc., to safeguard the City's intersections through automatic enforcement of red light violations. CrossingGuard® detects vehicles as they approach the intersection and are tracked by an overview camera that provides a 'bird's eye view' of the intersection.

Once a vehicle is detected, the system monitors its speed, acceleration, and deceleration to determine the probability of that vehicle stopping for the red light. If it is determined that the vehicle will not stop, the recording camera is triggered and the red light violation is recorded and transmitted to the police department. The photo red light system also predicts the red light violation and holds the traversing light until the intersection is clear, preventing serious injury to unsuspecting drivers.

Upon detection for running a red light, a vehicle's registered owner is cited for the violation and fined \$50.

Red light cameras have demonstrated the ability to improve intersection safety through better enforcement. Reports show up to a 50 percent reduction in violation over time. The City's main objective is not to issue citations, but to improve overall safety with CrossingGuard's collision avoidance feature. For more information, please contact the Office of Public Safety at 703-248-5052.

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